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S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 03 TEGUCIGALPA 001144

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DIA FOR CSR

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/15/2013

TAGS: [ASEC](#) [PTER](#) [PINR](#) [PREL](#) [CASC](#) [HO](#)

SUBJECT: POPULAR REVOLUTIONARY FORCES ISSUE COMMUNIQUE:
THREATEN AMERICAN, UK AND SPANISH DIPLOMATS IN HONDURAS

REF: TEGUCIGALPA 912

Classified By: Regional Security Officer John B. McKennan,
Reasons 1.5 C and D.

11. (SBU) SUMMARY: On the evening of May 14 post received a communique from a group calling itself the "Popular Revolutionary Forces" announcing the beginning of a campaign to overthrow the Maduro government and vowing to evict "Yankees" and other foreign occupiers. The communique's rhetoric follows traditional Latino revolutionary style. It also identifies United States, United Kingdom and Spanish diplomats accredited to Honduras as legitimate military targets. Based on information available at this time Post concurs with the initial Honduran police assessment (assuming the document is valid) that the communique represents an attempt to gain political support and is not a realistic threat. END SUMMARY

12. (SBU) On the evening of May 14 post received a communique from a group calling itself the "Popular Revolutionary Forces" FPR announcing the beginning of a campaign to overthrow the Maduro government and vowing to evict "Yankees" and other foreign occupiers from Iraq (and presumably Honduras). The communique's rhetoric follows traditional Latino revolutionary style. It also identifies United States, United Kingdom and Spanish diplomats accredited to Honduras as legitimate military targets. RSO has checked with a number of sources and determined that FPR cells were created in El Salvador in the 1970s-1980s and clandestinely charged with agitating within unions and popular organizations. The FPR was supported by the Salvadorian guerrillas. Four of the group's most powerful Honduran leaders were exiled and then circa 1991 allowed to return to Honduras. They subsequently violated an agreement not to continue revolutionary activities. Two of those exiled were, Gustavo Garcia Espana and Rigoberto Padilla Russell. Clementina Garcia Espana, (Gustavo's sister) was also a senior member, but not exiled. Reftel, para 1 describes thirty organizations involved in political demonstrations and the eight groups that are the most anti-U.S. including the Democratic Union (UD).

13. (S) The FPR is believed to have been involved in the burning of the AID building in Tegucigalpa in 1988. Last month there was an attempt by several anti-U.S. groups to commemorate the 15 year anniversary of the attack with a demonstration in front of the AID mission building. While the demonstration did not take place, RSO sources with access to activist planners, indicated that some leaders were attempting to bring back former Leftists responsible for the attack to help with training and to motivate current group members. The FPR, or persons using that name, have been known to release communiques over the years since 1991 against government policies and to call people to street protests. It is not possible at this time, given the available information, to determine the "validity" of this document. Additionally, the document was provided to the Embassy via Honduran Military Intelligence (C-2). RSO Comment: The C-2 organization is a small group struggling with limited resources that has on occasion provided information from questionable sources for questionable reasons. While the document was reportedly given to/obtained from a local newspaper, post was unable to find any mention of the communique in today's Press. Normally, the local press does not hesitate to report this type of story. End Comment.

14. (C) RSO sources indicate that two leaders of the FPR (or the attempt to create a new FPR) are Carolos Umberto Paz and Carlos Umberto Amalya Amador (possible aka: Ramon Amalya Amador). Both were active in the recent May Day demonstrations in Tegucigalpa, and were personally involved in tearing down a fence at the National Congress. Both have been seen participating in demonstrations outside the Embassy and RSO staff has photographed Paz painting a revolutionary slogan on the street outside the Embassy during the last demonstration. Paz also reportedly played a role in the burning of the AID building 15 years ago.

15. (C) It appears that Carlos Umberto Paz and Carlos Umberto Amalya Amador are attempting to re-establish the FPR as part of a continuing effort by certain elements to de-stabilize the Maduro government. They are said to be looking for "sponsors" and feel they will be easier to obtain if they identify with their old name and organization. This communique may be an early attempt to garner support for a re-kindled FPR.

16. (C) Paz, Amador, and several other members of the original FPR, aka: Fuerzas Populares Revolutionarias - Lorenzo Zelaya movement including Gustavo Garcia Espana, Rigoberto Padilla Russell and Clementina Garcia Espana are known to be active members of the party that became the Democratic Union Party (Unificacion Demoncratica) or UD represented in the National Congress.

17. (C) Post has shared copies of the communique with the UK and Spanish missions and been in contact with the police who are also assessing the information. RSO and PolOff will meet tomorrow with representatives from the UK and Spanish diplomatic missions to brief them on the latest developments.

Based on information available, Post concurs with the initial Honduran police assessment (assuming the document is valid) that the communique represents an attempt to gain political support and is not a realistic threat at this time.

Post will continue to investigate and provide additional information as it becomes available. Below is an informal translation of the communique.

Popular Revolutionary Forces

Communication

We, the popular revolutionary Forces announce to the Honduran people the beginning of our political and military activities in an effort to eliminate the neo-liberal and pro-imperialist government of Ricardo Maduro that is imposed on the majority of our people.

In the international arena, we condemn the military occupation of Iraq by the United States, along with the despicable governments of Great Britain and Spain. We demand the immediate retreat of the Yankees' occupation forces in Iraq and support the fight of the Arab people against the International Zionism.

We, again, raise our trenches to fight politically and militarily against the enemies of our people, who deeply rooted in the government, distribute among themselves the country's wealth whilst forsaking thousands of fellow citizens.

Our liberty rifles will be aimed from now on, to the heads of those white-collar thieves; and as revolutionaries we swear to not rest until we seize them and do justice in the name of our country.

We have defined our military objectives as the following: fight political corruption amongst government employees; the bourgeoisie's businesses, buildings, companies, as well as their accomplices involved in such corruption. For these people, we have a long list of their addresses and know of their movements.

We have also defined as subjects of our military objectives all diplomats of the governments of the United States of America, Great Britain and Spain who are accredited in Honduras. We won't rest until we avenge the blood of our Iraqi brothers, who's peoples are today, victims of the aggression of those countries.

We urge the patriotic officers of the police and the army to rebel against a tyrannical government. Let your weapons point to the thieves and corrupt officials who have wronged this noble country.

THE REVOLUTIONARY POPULAR FORCES call on this country's popular and rebellious organizations, to repossess the streets and overthrow this government that mangles the dignity of the poor and humble citizens.
THE PEOPLE UNITED AND ARMED, SHALL NEVER BE DEFEATED OR DESTROYED.

From an unknown location in Honduras:
Political-military Commission of the
POLITICAL REVOLUTIONARY FORCES

May 2003 END OF TRANSLATION
Palmer